Waste Reduction Task Force

Infrastructure and Financial Development Work Group #4

Fifth Meeting - March 18, 2008

Meeting Summary

Work Group Members Present: Pat Riley, Jeff Heyduck, Randy Etheridge, Mike Cary (standing in for Mark Kinsey at Mark's request), and Mayor Franklin Smith

Facilitator: Larry Christley

The meeting was held in Trenton, Tennessee at the Gibson County Gas Utility Building. It started at 9:00 a.m. and went until 2:15 p.m. Initial discussions started with some general questions on door-to-door pickup and green box pickup of solid waste as Carroll County and Haywood County were sharing about their particular systems for comparison purposes. Haywood County is the process of seeking to change away from the green box system and adopt a higher level of service.

Pat Riley shared an article on a 4 ton biomass energy generator that Purdue University is working with the US Army. These generators will produce 20 hours of electricity per 1 ton of solid waste. They will power a small village. With the cost of energy sky-rocketing and the need for better disposal options, material derived fuel (MDF) should definitely be a consideration in any integrated solid waste management system. Copy of article is attached. Energy is an important component throughout the entire process. Pat informed the work group that we can expect a 30-40% growth in electricity rates as TVA is seeking other sources of energy to provide power. This shows that MDF and the energy recovered from these materials are very important to any integrated solid waste management system that is defined in Tennessee.

The group decided to complete the directed questions that had already been started from a subsequent meeting in January. Each remaining item was discussed and an answer formulated. A copy of the responses is attached for reference. Of the topics discussed, examples include incentives, disincentives and sanctions to regions meeting goals or sharing a synergistic approach to their management systems; tourism affects on solid waste management systems; modifying our current definition of "higher level of service"; pilot 3-2-1 grants; cooperative marketing and RMCT; state revolving loan fund for solid waste among a few.

After tackling the questionnaire, the attention of the work group moved towards recommending priorities for adoption by the Task Force at large. Two additional priorities were identified and were moved to send forward. These two are: 1.) Promote utility board cooperation on turn on and off of parcels to help know who to bill or not. This would help with billing of solid waste management at the local government level and 2.) New 3-2-1 Grant to fund the starting pilot recycling or diversion programs. The Work Group did not complete the full workout on the second priority and will take it up during the break out section at Task Force meeting on Thursday.

The meeting concluded after the decision to push the second priority to the next Task Force meeting.